

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ( ISO ) W

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O 051202Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2932

AMEMBASSY CAIRO NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 6105

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR US IS EG

SUBJ: ISRAELI ACTIONS IN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: TEL AVIV 6100

1. AT OUR REQUEST AND DESPITE IDF CURRENT PREOCCUPATION WITH HIJACKED KLM FLIGHT, ARMA MET WITH IDF CHIEF OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS, HIS DEPUTY AND ISRAELI NAVY (IN) CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE AT 1000 SEPT 5. ARMA AGAIN QUERIED CONCERNING GUNFIRE DIRECTED AT BUOYS AS REPORTED BY AMOCO WHICH WAS IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH IN STATEMENTS THAT TO BEST OF THEIR KNOWLEDGE, NO SHOTS HAD BEEN FIRED. IDF RESPONSE WAS AS FOLLOWS.

2. AS A RESULT OF EMBASSY'S REQUEST FOR IDF VERSION OF EVENTS, IN CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE HAD AGAIN QUERIED AT TUR BASE CONCERNING REPORTED GUNFIRE AND SINKING OF BOUYS. AT APPROXIMATELY 0300 SEPT 5, HE RECEIVED REPORT THAT IN HAD ENGAGED BUOYS WITH SMALL CALIBER GUNFIRE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS WAS:

A. AT APPROX 0735, SEPT 4, DABOUR PATROL BOAT FIRED ON A BUOY WITH SMALL CALIBER WEAPON AND SANK IT.

B. BETWEEN 1500 TO 1515, SEP 4, DABOURS FIRED ON FOUR (4) BOUYS WITH SMALL CALIBER GUNFIRE AND SANK THEM.

C. THREE (3) OTHER BOUYS, APPARENTLY MADE OF AN UNSINKABLE  
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MATERIAL, WERE CUT FROM THEIR ANCHOR ROPES.

3. IN STATES LOCATION OF ALL EIGHT BOUYS WAS 500 TO 3500 YDS EAST OF MEDIAN LINE AND 5000 TO 6000 METERS FROM THE NEAREST OPERATING RIG, PLATFORM OR ANY OTHER FACILITY WITH PERSONNEL ABOARD. THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT FIRE MIGHT HAVE BEEN HEARD OR SEEN. HOWEVER, IN STATES THAT POSSIBILITY OF ANY RICHOCHET IS QUOTE VIRTUALLY NIL UNQUOTE. IN EXCLUDED POSSIBILITY OF DANGER TO ANY OF THE RIGS IN THE AREA.

4. ARMA EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND DISAPPOINTMENT WITH OBVIOUS CONFLICT OF ABOVE WITH PREVIOUS REPORTS. IN CHIEF OFINTELL AND IDF CHIEF OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS STATED THAT PREVIOUS REPORTS HAD BEEN BASED UPON ALL AVAILABLE GHQ INFORMATION AT THE TIME. IN CHIEF OF INTELL INDICATED THAT SMALL CALIBER FIRE NOT DIRECTED AT OR INTENDED AGAINST PERSONNEL WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

5. COMMENT: THE SINKING OF BUOYS IS APPARENTLY WHAT ALLON MEANT WHEN HE SAID ISRAELIS WOULD MAKE IT "INCONVENIENT" FOR AMOCO TO DRILL EAST OF MEDIAN LINE. WE WILL PROTEST AT HIGH LEVEL 1) FACT THATISRAELIS HAVE DELIBERATELY DESTROYED AMERICAN PROPERTY AND 2) THERE WE WERE NOT TOLD OF THIS ACTION AGAINST BOUYS LAST NIGHT WHEN BRIEFED BY IDF. WE WILL INSIST THAT WE BE KEPT FULLY INFORMED IN FUTURE. THIS DEMARCHE MAY HAVE TO AWAIT RESOLUTION OF CURRENT HIJACK PROBLEM (KLM AIRCRAFT) WHICH IS OCCUPYING ATTENTION OF ENTIRE LEADERSHIP AND COUNTRY.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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